



## CABINET

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

11 September 2013

Present: Councillors Arthur (chair), Waters (vice chair), Bremner, Kendrick, Sands (M), Stonard

Also present: Councillor Stephenson

### 1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

### 2. PUBLIC QUESTIONS / PETITIONS

There were no public questions or petitions.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 4. MINUTES

**RESOLVED** to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2013.

### 5. UPDATE TO DEBT COLLECTION POLICY – KEY DECISION

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to approve the updated debt collection policy.

### 6. QUARTER 1 2013-14 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Councillor Arthur, leader of the council, presented the report. In response to a member's question she explained that the figures surrounding work to improve

speed within benefit payments represented quarter one, prior to improvement work having been carried out. As such, she said that the results for quarter two would show great improvement and the latest figures she had seen indicated that 10 days have been taken off the waiting time stated in the report.

In response to a further question, Councillor Arthur agreed that serious thinking was needed around road accident figures and whilst the city council was limited in what it could achieve, seeking funding from the county council was a good idea. In addition, the portfolio holder for environment, development and transport explained that the highways agency try to target their limited budget at accident hotspots. He confirmed that there was an overall plan to roll out 20 mph zones across the city as funding became available.

In response to a member's question, the head of strategy, people and democracy explained that the city council had set itself deliberately high Co2 reduction targets. He went on to explain that the data used measure performance is not corrected to take into account changes in the weather. If the unusually cold winter had been taken into account, the figure of 6% would have been surpassed by a considerable margin.

**RESOLVED** to accept the report.

## **7. TREASURY MANAGEMENT FULL YEAR REVIEW 2012-13**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to recommend that council notes the report and the treasury activity.

## **8. REVENUE OUTTURN 2012-13**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to note the revenue outturn for the year 2012/13.

## **9. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2013-14 - PERIOD 3**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to note the financial position as at 30 June 2013 and the forecast outturn 2013-14.

## **10. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2013-14 - Q1**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

In response to a member's question, the head of property services (NPS Norwich) explained that whilst a lot of work had gone into investigating the introduction of solar thermal power, there were concerns regarding the robustness of the technology. Research would be ongoing until there was satisfaction regarding the technology involved. In the meantime work would be focused on insulating and cladding.

### **RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) note the current and forecast financial position on the housing and non-housing capital programmes and the risk management arrangements;
- (2) approve the proposed approvals brought forward from 2012/13;
- (3) approve the proposed capital virements; and,
- (4) delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive (Operations) approval of budget adjustments, within the policy & budget framework, for capital fees.

## **11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PLAN – PUSH THE PEDALWAYS**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, introduced the report and Councillor Stonard, portfolio holder for environment, development and transport, presented the report.

In response to a member's question, the head of city development services explained that the £300K virement was associated with section 106 and other monies which formed part of the match funding.

In response to a further question Councillor Stonard explained that the aim was to fully develop other pedalways in the city over time as grant funding became available.

### **RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) recommend to council to approve the inclusion £1,664,000, £3,667,000 and £222,000 into the capital plan for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively, and the inclusion of £1,664,000 into the capital programme for 2013-14.

- (2) approve the virement of £300,000 from the existing S106 approvals, £100,000 from the existing capital programme allocation to Chapel Field North and Westlegate and £30,000 from the approved revenue budget for the City Hall refurbishment into the new push the pedalways / cycle city ambition grant budgets.

## **12. NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD – DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER CONSULTATION – KEY DECISION**

Councillor Stonard, portfolio holder for environment, development and transport, presented the report.

### **RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) advise Norfolk County Council that the city council has no objections to the proposal to construct the northern distributor route (NDR) subject to the delivery of a programme of measures to secure major improvements and enabling the promotion of more sustainable forms of transport as promoted within the Norwich area transportation strategy implementation plan (NATSIP);
- (2) request that the county council supports its application for the NDR by demonstrating its place within the overall NATS Strategy and giving a commitment to deliver the whole of the NATSIP by 2026, such that the city council can offer unequivocal support for the scheme at the pre-examination and examination stage of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) process; and
- (3) request the county council, through detailed design, to ensure that the NDR enhances the potential for walking, cycling and public transport use between the expanding communities to the north and east of the city to ensure that any potential severance effects are fully mitigated.

## **13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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## **\*14. APPROPRIATION OF LAND FOR PLANNING PURPOSES**

Councillor Stonard, portfolio holder for environment, development and transport, introduced the report.

### **RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) resolve in accordance with section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 that land at the Gamewell Close garage site be appropriated for the planning purposes as defined in section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as it is no longer required for the garage use for which it

is currently held. Such an appropriation will facilitate the redevelopment of the land;

- (2) note that private rights of way over the land will be extinguished if it is developed in accordance with a planning permission which is incompatible with the continuance of such rights (section 237 Town and Country Planning Act 1990). The person with the benefit of the rights will have a claim for compensation. The current access route within the land is shown in orange in appendix 1; and,
- (3) authorise the deputy chief executive to use delegated powers to deal with all matters incidental to these land transactions.

#### **\*15. GOLDSMITH STREET REDEVELOPMENT – KEY DECISION**

Councillor Stonard, portfolio holder for environment, development and transport, presented the report.

##### **RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) note the outline business case for the construction of up to 100 new dwellings on land at Goldsmith Street, subject to planning consent at an estimated cost of £10,000,000;
- (2) recommend to council the inclusion of £250,000 for designing a scheme and submission of a planning application to enable the detailed business plan to be finalised;
- (3) agree to recommend to council in next years budget the inclusion of a minimum of £5m from the available HRA 'headroom' to develop the social rented dwellings;
- (4) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations), in consultation with the cabinet member for resources and chief finance officer, approval of the business case and all financial matters to enable appropriate provision to be made in the council's housing and non housing capital programmes; and
- (5) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations) to take all necessary and ancillary steps relating to the design of the final scheme in consultation with the project board.

#### **\*16. DEVELOPMENT AT THE AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE – KEY DECISION**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) agree, that in partnership with Norfolk County Council, the city council proceeds with the development of a vacant site at the Airport Industrial Estate as described in this report, to:
  - a) Outline planning consent for the industrial element; and
  - b) Full planning consent for the residential element.
- (2) jointly (with Norfolk County Council) appoint NPS Norwich Ltd to provide professional services including architectural design, planning (as applicant) and surveys and to act as the councils' developer agent assuming the proposals proceed to construction;
- (3) agree that the city council be the affordable housing provider (at social rent) for the scheme;
- (4) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations), in consultation with the cabinet member for resources and chief finance officer, approval of the detailed business case and all financial matters to enable appropriate provision to be made in the council's housing and non housing capital programmes to enable the proposals to proceed; and
- (5) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations) to take all necessary and ancillary steps relating to the design of the final scheme in consultation with the cabinet member for environment, development and transport.

**\*17. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CORPORATE CASH COLLECTION SERVICE**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

In response to a member's question, Councillor Waters said that G4S provided a wide range services and had there been a particular issue regarding cash collection, this would have become clear during the procurement process. As such the procurement process had been fair and the criteria met by G4S. Once the collection work started, robust contract management and scrutiny of work carried out would ensure that services were delivered in line with the proposal received at procurement stage.

**RESOLVED** to approve the award of the corporate cash collection service contract.

**\*18. MANAGING ASSETS – KEY DECISION**

Councillor Waters, deputy leader and portfolio holder for resources, presented the report.

In response to a member's question the head of city development services explained that the limit for public parking in the city centre was set at some 10,000 spaces. He confirmed that even upon completion of the multi-storey car park this cap would not be reached.

The portfolio holder for environment, development and transport added that full consultation had taken place with local people and businesses, and they stated clearly that they felt more parking was required.

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) approve the project and agree to recommend that council include the necessary financing within the capital plan and programme;
- (2) agree that officers working with NPS Norwich Ltd secure a design and build contract for the preferred site assuming the proposals proceed to construction; and,
- (3) delegate authority to the deputy chief executive (operations) in consultation with the portfolio holder (resources) to take all necessary and ancillary steps relating to the delivery of the project.

**\*19. MANAGING ASSETS (HOUSING) 1**

Councillor Bremner, portfolio holder for housing, presented the report.

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) approve the disposal of the freehold interest in the asset on the open market; the method of disposal being delegated to the head of city development services;
- (2) approve an application, where necessary, to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for consent to the disposal of the assets detailed in the report;
- (3) approve the capital receipt from the disposal be reinvested in the housing capital programme for improving, repairing and maintaining our housing stock or for enabling new affordable housing; and,
- (4) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations) authority to take all necessary and ancillary steps to achieve the above.

**\*20. MANAGING ASSETS (HOUSING) 2**

Councillor Bremner, portfolio holder for housing, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to:-

- (1) approve the option to resettle the council tenants (where applicable) and to dispose of the freehold interest in the assets on the open market; the method of disposal being delegated to the Head of city development;
- (2) approve the capital receipt from the disposal be reinvested in the housing capital programme for improving, repairing and maintaining our housing stock or for enabling new affordable housing; and,
- (3) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations) to take all necessary and ancillary steps to achieve the above.

CHAIR